

USMLE REQUIREMENTS

Steps 1 and 2 (CK CS):

To ensure that all residents/fellows meet minimal standards, the Graduate Medical Education Program requires that **all** residents/fellows entering any Memphis-based graduate medical education program sponsored by the University of Tennessee College of Medicine on or after July 1, 2009 must have passed USMLE Steps 1 and 2 (CK and CS) or equivalent examinations (COMLEX-USA or MCCQE).

Any Agreement of Appointment or offer letter will be contingent upon passing Steps 1 and 2 (or equivalent exams). Each resident/fellow is responsible for providing copies of passage of Steps 1 and 2 (CK and CS) or equivalent examinations to the program director and GME Office and will not be allowed to start training until this documentation is submitted. A valid ECFMG certificate will be accepted as proof for international medical school graduates.

Accepted or matched residents and fellows who have not passed Steps 1 and 2 (or equivalent examinations) by July 1 will be released from their contract. Any program that releases a resident or fellow who matched through the NRMP will be required to obtain a release from NRMP before offering the position to another applicant.

Step 3:

Residents/fellows entering programs between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, will be required to pass Step 3 (or equivalent examination) prior to being advanced to the third year of training at the University. Failure to pass Step 3 prior to March 1 of the second year of training may result in non-renewal of the resident's appointment.

Effective July 1, 2010, all new residents entering programs at the PGY1 or PGY2 level must pass Step 3 (or equivalent examination) prior to March 1 of their PGY2 year in order to be promoted to the PGY3 level. Failure to meet this requirement may result in non-renewal of the resident's appointment.

Effective July 1, 2010, all new residents/fellows entering Memphis-based GME programs at the PGY3 or higher level must have passed Step 3 (or equivalent examination) before beginning training at UT.

The resident/fellow is responsible for providing evidence of passage of Step 3 (or equivalent exam) to the program director and GME Office.

Exceptions:

Any resident/fellow who entered the UT GME Program prior to July 1, 2009 is excluded from these requirements. Any entering resident/fellow who has already passed Step 3 or holds a current, unrestricted medical license meets UT GME's USMLE requirements.

Individual programs may have earlier examination deadlines or specific score requirements. The resident/fellow will be responsible for meeting individual program requirements when they differ from GME requirements.

Any exception to this policy due to specific circumstances must be approved by the Graduate Medical Education Committee and the Designated Institutional Official. The requesting program director must provide written documentation for the exception. The decision of the GMEC and DIO is final.

Resident Responsibilities:

Each resident/fellow is responsible for contacting the appropriate licensing authority to register for the appropriate examination. All examination fees are the responsibility of the resident/fellow. Each resident/fellow should carefully review the exam dates and policies to ensure that the results will be available by the required deadlines. Information on Step 3 is available in the USMLE Bulletin of Information (http://www.usmle.org/General_Information/bulletin/2009.html).

In addition, many states have restrictions regarding time intervals between the three steps, so residents/fellows should familiarize themselves with these requirements. In Tennessee, all three USMLE steps must be taken and passed within seven years. General information regarding state-specific requirements for licensure can be obtained from the Federation of State Medical Boards (<http://www.fsmb.org/>).